

This Page Is Inserted by IFW Operations
and is not a part of the Official Record

BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images may include (but are not limited to):

- BLACK BORDERS
- TEXT CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES
- FADED TEXT
- ILLEGIBLE TEXT
- SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES
- COLORED PHOTOS
- BLACK OR VERY BLACK AND WHITE DARK PHOTOS
- GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS

IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.

**As rescanning documents *will not* correct images,
please do not report the images to the
Image Problem Mailbox.**

Applicant or Patentee:
Serial or Patent No.:
Filed or Issued:
For:



Attorney's Docket No.:

VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS
(37 CFR 1.9(f) and 1.27(c)) — **SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN**

I hereby declare that I am

- ☐ the owner of the small business concern identified below:
☒ an official of the small business concerned empowered to act on behalf of the concern identified below:

NAME OF CONCERN
ADDRESS OF CONCERN

AZIMUT-BENETTI S.p.A.
Via Michele Coppino 104
I-55049 VIAREGGIO (Lucca) Italy

I hereby declare that the above identified small business concern qualifies as a small business concern as defined in 15 CFR 121.3-18, and reproduced in 37 CFR 1.9(d), for purposes of paying reduced fees under section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, in that the number of employees of the concern, including those of its affiliates, does not exceed 500 persons. For purposes of this statement, (1) the number of employees of the business concern is the average over the previous fiscal year of the concern of the persons employed on a full-time, part-time or temporary basis during each of the pay periods of the fiscal year; and (2) concerns are affiliates of each other when either, directly or indirectly, one concern controls or has the power to control the other, or a third party or parties controls or has the power to control both.

I hereby declare that rights under contract or law have been conveyed to and remain with the small business concern identified above with regard to the invention, entitled 'Apparatus for measuring the instantaneous distance between the stern of a vessel and a fixed structure such as a quay, a jetty or a landing stage' by inventor(s) Massimiliano COTTERCHIO, Giacomo NEGRO, Simone BRUCKNER.
described in:

- ☐ the specification filed herewith
☒ application serial no. 10/788664, filed February 27, 2004
☐ patent no. , issued

If the rights held by the above identified small business concern are not exclusive, each individual, concern or organization having rights to the invention is listed below* and no rights to the invention are held by any person, other than the inventor, who could not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or by any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e). *NOTE: Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27)

FULL NAME
ADDRESS

☐ INDIVIDUAL ☐ SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN ☐ NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION

FULL NAME
ADDRESS

☐ INDIVIDUAL ☐ SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN ☐ NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b))

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

NAME OF PERSON SIGNING

PAOLO VITELLI

TITLE OF PERSON OTHER THAN OWNER

PRESIDENT

ADDRESS OF PERSON SIGNING

VIA BERRECCA 6 - TORINO (Italy)

SIGNATURE

DATE March 22, 2004

Merchant & Gould

United States Patent Application

COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor I hereby declare that: my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; that

I verily believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or a joint inventor (if plural inventors are named below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

Insert TITLE of invention

"Apparatus for measuring the instantaneous distance between the stern of a vessel and a fixed structure such as a quay, a jetty or a landing stage"

Check a or b

The specification of which

a. ☐ is attached hereto

b. ☒ was filed on February 27, 2004

If "b" checked, complete

as application serial no. 10/788664

and was amended on _____ (if applicable)

If PCT Application

(in the case of PCT-filed application)

Insert int. application
number & filing date

described and claimed in international no. _____ filed _____

and as amended on _____ (if any), which I have reviewed and for which I solicit a United States patent.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a). (Reprinted on back side).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 19/365 of any foreign application(s) for patent of inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on the basis of which priority is claimed:

Prior applications
Check a or b

a. ☐ no such applications have been filed.

b. ☒ such applications have been filed as follows:

FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY, CLAIMING PRIORITY UNDER 35 USC § 119			
COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	DATE OF ISSUE (day, month, year)
ITALY	TO2003A000149	3 MARCH 2003	
ALL FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY, FILED BEFORE THE PRIORITY APPLICATION(S)			
COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	DATE OF ISSUE (day, month, year)

If "b" checked, complete

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120/365 of any United States and PCT international application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations § 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

For Continuation-in-Part
(CIP) Applications, complete

U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	STATUS (patented, pending, abandoned)

I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or patent agent(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected herewith:

Albrecht, John W.	Reg. No. 40,481	Golla, Charles E.	Reg. No. 26,896	Phillips, John B.	Reg. No. 37,206
Anderson, Gregg I.	Reg. No. 28,828	Gorman, Alan G.	Reg. No. 38,472	Plunkett, Theodore	Reg. No. 37,209
Ansems, Gregory M.	Reg. No. 42,264	Gould, John D.	Reg. No. 18,223	Pytel, Melissa J.	Reg. No. 37,209
Batzli, Brian H.	Reg. No. 32,960	Gregson, Richard	Reg. No. 41,804	Reich, John C.	Reg. No. 37,703
Beard, John L.	Reg. No. 27,612	Gresens, John J.	Reg. No. 33,112	Reiland, Earl D.	Reg. No. 25,767
Berman, Charles	Reg. No. 29,249	Hamre, Curtis B.	Reg. No. 29,165	Rittmaster, Ted R.	Reg. No. 32,933
Black, Bruce	Reg. No. 41,622	Hillson, Randall A.	Reg. No. 31,838	Schmaltz, David G.	Reg. No. 39,828
Blasdel, Thomas L.	Reg. No. 31,329	Holzer, Jr., Richard J.	Reg. No. 42,668	Schuman, Mark D.	Reg. No. 31,197
Bogucki, Raymond A.	Reg. No. 17,426	Johnston, Scott W.	Reg. No. 39,721	Schumann, Michael D.	Reg. No. 30,422
Bruess, Steven C.	Reg. No. 34,130	Kastelic, Joseph M.	Reg. No. 37,160	Sebald, Gregory A.	Reg. No. 33,280
Byrne, Linda M.	Reg. No. 32,404	Kettelberger, Denise	Reg. No. 33,924	Soderberg, Richard	Reg. No. P-43,352
Carlson, Alan G.	Reg. No. 25,959	Knearl, Homer L.	Reg. No. 21,197	Sumner, John P.	Reg. No. 29,114
Caspers, Philip P.	Reg. No. 33,227	Komanduri, Janaki	Reg. No. 40,684	Summers, John S.	Reg. No. 24,216
Chinpetta, James R.	Reg. No. 39,634	Kowalchuk, Alan W.	Reg. No. 31,535	Tellekson, David K.	Reg. No. 32,314
Clifford, John A.	Reg. No. 30,247	Kowalchuk, Katherine M.	Reg. No. 36,848	Trembath, Jon R.	Reg. No. 38,344
Cochran, William W.	Reg. No. 26,652	Kubota, Glenn M.	Reg. No. P-44,197	Underhill, Albert L.	Reg. No. 27,403
Daignault, Ronald A.	Reg. No. 25,968	Lacy, Paul A.	Reg. No. 38,946	Vandenburgh, J. Derek	Reg. No. 32,179
Daley, Dennis R.	Reg. No. 34,994	Larson, James A.	Reg. No. 40,443	Vrandenburgh, Anna M.	Reg. No. 39,868
Dalglisch, Leslie E.	Reg. No. 40,579	Liepa, Mara E.	Reg. No. 40,066	Welter, Paul A.	Reg. No. 20,890
Daulton, Julie R.	Reg. No. 36,414	Lindquist, Timothy A.	Reg. No. 40,701	Whipps, Brian	Reg. No. P-43,261
DeVries Smith, Kate	Reg. No. 42,157	Marschang, Diane L.	Reg. No. 35,600	Wickhem, J. Scot	Reg. No. 41,376
DiPietro, Mark J.	Reg. No. 28,707	McDonald, Daniel W.	Reg. No. 32,044	Williams, Douglas J.	Reg. No. 27,054
Edell, Robert T.	Reg. No. 20,187	McIntyre, Iain A.	Reg. No. 40,337	Witt, Jonelle	Reg. No. 41,980
Epp Ryan, Sandra	Reg. No. 39,667	Mueller, Douglas P.	Reg. No. 30,300	Wood, William	Reg. P-42,236
Farber, Michael B.	Reg. No. 32,612	Nasiedlak, Tyler L.	Reg. No. 40,099	Xu, Min S.	Reg. No. 39,536
Glance, Robert J.	Reg. No. 40,620	Pauly, Daniel M.	Reg. No. 40,123		

I hereby authorize them to act and rely on instructions from and communicate directly with the person/assignee/attorney/firm/organization/who/which first sends/sent this case to them and by whom/which I hereby declare that I have consented after full disclosure to be represented unless/until I instruct Merchant & Gould to the contrary.

Please direct all correspondence in this case to Merchant & Gould P.C. at the address indicated below (or if no address is specified, the first address):

☒ 3100 Norwest Center, 90 South Seventh Street; Minneapolis, MN 55402-4131 (Telephone No. (612) 332-5300)

☐ Independence Plaza, Suite 1400; 1050 17th St.; Denver, CO 80265-0100 (Telephone No. (303) 357-1670)

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Insert FULL name(s)
AND address(es) of
actual inventor(s)

2	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR	FAMILY NAME	FIRST GIVEN NAME	SECOND GIVEN NAME
0	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP
1	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	CITY	STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY
2	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR	FAMILY NAME	FIRST GIVEN NAME	SECOND GIVEN NAME
0	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP
2	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	CITY	STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY
2	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR	FAMILY NAME	FIRST GIVEN NAME	SECOND GIVEN NAME
0	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP
3	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	CITY	STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY
SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 201		SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 202		SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 203
DATE		DATE		DATE

Each inventor must
sign & date

Note: No legalization or
other witness required

Revised 8/3/99

For Additional Inventors:

☐ Check box and attach sheet with same information, including date and signature.

§ 1.56 Duty to disclose information material to patentability.

(a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is cancelled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is cancelled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is deemed to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §.97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:

- (1) prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and
- (2) the closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.

(b) Under this section, information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and

- (1) It establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim;
- or

- (2) It refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in:
 - (i) Opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or
 - (ii) Asserting an argument of patentability.

A prima facie case of unpatentability is established when the information compels a conclusion that a claim is unpatentable under the preponderance of evidence, burden-of-proof standard, giving each term in the claim its broadest reasonable construction consistent with the specification, and before any consideration is given to evidence which may be submitted in an attempt to establish a contrary conclusion of patentability.

(c) Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:

- (1) Each inventor named in the application;
- (2) Each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and
- (3) Every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application.

(d) Individuals other than the attorney, agent or inventor may comply with this section by disclosing information to the attorney, agent, or inventor.



S/N 10/788,664

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	COTTERCHIO ET AL.	Examiner:	UNKNOWN
Serial No.:	10/788,664	Group Art Unit:	3617
Filed:	FEBRUARY 27, 2004	Docket No.:	9728.305US01
Title:	APPARATUS FOR MEASURING THE INSTANTANEOUS DISTANCE BETWEEN THE STERN OF A VESSEL AND A FIXED STRUCTURE SUCH AS A QUAY, A JETTY OR A LANDING STAGE		

REQUEST FOR RECOGNITION OF PATENT PRACTITIONERS AS
BEING OF RECORD, UNDER RULE 37 C.F.R. § 1.32(c)(3)

Because the Power of Attorney named more than ten patent practitioners, this paper is being submitted to indicate that the following patent practitioners are to be recognized by the Office as being of record:

Brian H. Batzli (32,960)

James A. Larson (40,443)

John A. Clifford (30,247)

Douglas P. Mueller (30,300)

John J. Gresens (33,112)

Joshua N. Randall (50,719)

Curtis B. Hamre (29,165)

Michael D. Schumann (30,422)

Robert A. Kalinsky (50,471)


Gregory A. Sebald (33,280)

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
(612) 332-5300

Date: 7/7/04

23552
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE



John J. Gresens
Reg. No. 33,112
JJG:PLSklg